

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) An apparatus for binding a boot to a base plate of a snowboard, comprising:
 - a first band mounted on a first side of the base plate;
 - a second band mounted on a second side of the base plate opposite the first side of the base plate in a width direction, the second band being removably attached to the first band, so as to fasten a toe end portion of the boot to the base plate,
wherein the second band fastens the toe end portion at an acute angle with respect to the base plate and the toe end portion of the boot.
2. (Currently amended) The apparatus for binding a boot to a base plate of a snowboard as set forth in claim 1, further comprising:
a pad attached to one of the first band and the second band at an upper surface of the pad, ~~and wherein~~ the toe end portion of the boot ~~at~~ contacts on a lower surface of the pad.
3. (Original) The apparatus for binding a boot to a base plate of a snowboard as set forth in claim 2, wherein the pad is a soft material.
4. (Currently amended) The apparatus for binding a boot to a base plate of a snowboard as set forth in claim 2, wherein the pad comprises a first part ~~plate~~ contacting a front surface of the toe end portion of the boot, and a second part ~~plate~~ contacting an

upper surface of the toe end portion of the boot, the first part plate being adjacent to the second part plate.

5. (Original) The apparatus for binding a boot to a base plate of a snowboard as set forth in claim 4 wherein the pad is a hard material.

6. (Original) An apparatus for binding a boot to a base plate of a snowboard, comprising:

a first band mounted on a first side of the base plate;
a second band mounted on a second side of the base plate opposite the first side of the base plate in a width direction; and

a pad mounted on the first band at a first portion and removably attached to the second band at a second portion,

wherein the pad fastens a toe end portion of the boot at an acute angle with respect to the base plate and the toe end portion.

7. (Original) An apparatus for binding a boot to a base plate of a snowboard, comprising:

a fixing structure connects a first side of the base plate to a second side of the base plate at an acute angle with respect to a toe end of the boot; and

a first band that removably connects the fixing structure connects to the first side of the base plate.

8. (Original) The apparatus for binding a boot to a base plate of a snowboard as set forth in claim 7, the fixing structure comprising:

a first belt for fastening an upper portion of the toe end of the boot to the base plate;

a second belt for fastening a front portion of the toe end of the boot to the base plate, the first belt and the second belt being connected to each other at first ends thereof and connected to each other at second ends thereof; and

a second band connected removably to the first ends of the first belt and the second belt, and connected fixedly to the second side of the base plate,

wherein the second ends of the first belt and the second belt are removably connected to the first band.

9. (Original) The apparatus for binding a boot to a base plate of a snowboard as set forth in claim 8, wherein the first belt and the second belt are formed integrally with respect to each other.

10. (Original) The apparatus for binding a boot to a base plate of a snowboard as set forth in claim 7, the fixing structure comprising:

a first belt for fastening an upper portion of the toe end of the boot to the base plate; and

a second belt for fastening a front portion of the toe end of the boot to the base plate, the first belt and the second belt being fixedly connected to each other at first ends thereof and removably connected to each other at second ends thereof,

wherein the first ends of the first belt and the second belt are removably connected to the first band, and the second ends of the first belt and the second belt are removably connected directly to the second side of the base plate.

11. (Currently amended) The apparatus for binding a boot to a base plate of a snowboard as set forth in claim 10, wherein the first ends of the first belt and the second belt are adjustable with respect to the first band, and the second ends of the first belt and the second belt are not adjustable with respect to the second side of the base plate.

12. (Original) The apparatus for binding a boot to a base plate of a snowboard as set forth in claim 10, wherein the first ends of the first belt and the second belt are adjustably connected directly to the second side of the base plate.

13. (Original) The apparatus for binding a boot to a base plate of a snowboard as set forth in claim 7, further comprising:

a pad for covering the toe end of the boot disposed between the first belt and the second belt.

14. (Original) The apparatus for binding a boot to a base plate of a snowboard as set forth in claim 13, wherein the first belt, the second belt and the pad are formed integrally with respect to each other.

15. (Original) The apparatus for binding a boot to a base plate of a snowboard as set forth in claim 7, wherein the first band is adjustable with respect to the first ends of the first belt and the second belt.